

The RotaPoint



Rotary Club of Point Loma

Number 05/06-4

August 17, 2005

Polio Outbreak in Indonesia; R.I. Awards WHO Emergency Grant

On August 2nd, Rotary International approved a \$250,000 grant to the World Health Organization (WHO) to fund polio immunization activities in Indonesia. Immunization campaigns will be conducted on August 30th and September 27th to protect about 24.4 million children under the age of five against polio.

These activities are in response to an outbreak of polio after a 20-month old child in West Java contracted the disease in May 2005. The virus has since spread to several other provinces with a case count of 155 as of July 27th. [As of early August, the number had increased to at least 200, according to news accounts.]

Noting the urgent need to halt the spread of the polio virus in Indonesia, which had been polio-free for the past 10 years, R.I. President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar said, "We must all do everything possible to stop this outbreak. No child should go unvaccinated, as the tragic and lifelong consequences of polio can be easily prevented by an effective and safe vaccine."

With a global investment of more than four billion dollars since 1988 for the eradication effort, including more than \$600 million raised by Rotary International, responding to this outbreak will require an additional \$1.8 million. The total budget for the National Immunization Days (NIDs) is \$24 million.

Indonesian Rotarians have been fully engaged in addressing this situation and plan to be active in the upcoming NIDs. Some of their volunteer activities will include mobilizing and educating

communities of the importance of immunizing their children, administering the drops of oral vaccine to children, helping local community leaders ensure that each child in their areas is reached, and assisting health workers in keeping accurate records of children immunized.

A highly infectious disease, polio still strikes children mainly under the age of five who live in countries in Asia and Africa. Polio can cause paralysis and sometimes death. As there is no cure for polio, the best protection is prevention. For as little as 60 cents worth of vaccine, a child can be protected against this crippling disease for life.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is spearheaded by the WHO, Rotary International, the U.S. Centers for Disease control and Prevention, and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). In filling its role in the eradication effort, R.I. created PolioPlus in 1985. It is a program dedicated to the immunization of all the world's children against polio.

As stated earlier, Rotary has raised more than \$600 million to fund its part of the eradication effort. The amount represents the largest private-sector support for a global health initiative ever. In addition, more than one million men and women of Rotary have volunteered their time and personal

Today's Thought

As we advance in life it becomes more and more difficult, but in fighting the difficulties the inmost strength of the heart is developed.

- Vincent van Gogh



German Rotarian Receives PLRC Flag

Professor Reiner Kreuzburg (above left) receives a Point Loma Rotary banner from club secretary Rich Stakelum. He visited the club on August 5th.

Past PLRC Treasurer Accepts Award
On August 12th Russ Bushby
(below) accepted an award from the



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Club Bulletin Board -

Invocation/Pledge Assignments

August 19—**Ken Osborne**

August 26—Larry Brenner

September 2—Club dark; Labor Day weekend

September 9—Jim Krause

September 16—Dave Leedom

September 23—Alfred Lewis

September 30—Claudia Low

Membership Note

What do you do with your *Rotarian* magazine after you have read it from cover to cover? Put it under the dog? Line the bird cage?

Here are some suggestions: Take it to your office reception room to replace those five-year old Sports Illustrated magazines. Maybe someone will pick it up and read it or ask you about joining Rotary. <u>OR</u> Bring it to a meeting and give it to **George Klein**. He will distribute these "used" copies to new members. It takes about six months for new members to receive their first *Rotarian* magazines.

Foundation Seminar

The Rotary District 5340 Foundation Seminar will be held Saturday, September 10th, at the Salk Institute Auditorium, 10010 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. Check-in and breakfast, 7:00 AM; program 8:00 until noon.

The online registration deadline is Friday, September 2nd. There is a limited seating capacity, so an advance reservation is mandatory. The cost is

\$20 per person.

Kudos to PLRCers

Thanks are in order to **Dave DeRosier** (DDS) and **Tony Calabrese**(Point Loma Community Bank) for
their individual sponsorships of the
Point Loma Summer Concert series.
For those who were unable to attend the
August 12th event, you missed a great
show that featured the swinging sounds
of Big Time Operator. Not to be
overlooked is **George Klein**, who
volunteers as picnic pickup for those
who order food in advance.



District Governor Visits the PLRC (Left)

Rotary District Governor **Bob Watson** spoke to the club on August 5th. He emphasized the importance of increasing Rotary membership and enjoined all club members to work toward inviting friends and associates to club meetings. Here Bob is pictured wearing his Hawaiian shirt as he observes the club's luncheon meeting. Sitting on his right is Assistant District Governor **Ron Erbetta**.

PLRC Hosts U.S. Congresswoman (Right)

U.S. Representative Susan Davis visited the club on August 12th. Before addressing the membership, she lunched with PLRCers. Sitting to her left is club president Byron Dyck. Ms. Davis spoke about various issues of concern to her constituents.



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Calendar of Events for August-September 2005

Friday, August 19: Club meeting, Southwestern Yacht Club, 12:10 PM. San Diego mayoral candidate **Jerry Sanders** will speak to the club.

Friday, August 26: Club meeting, Southwestern Yacht Club, 12:10 PM. Speaker: talk show host George Chamberlain

Friday, September 2: Club dark. No meeting. Happy Labor Day weekend!

Friday, September 9: Club meeting, Southwestern Yacht Club, 12:10 PM. **Miko Pelep** will talk about the Rotary Foundation.

Saturday, September 10: Rotary Foundation seminar, Salk Institute, La Jolla. Check-in and breakfast, 7:00 AM; program 8:00 to noon.

Friday, September 16: Club

meeting, Southwestern Yacht Club, 12:10 PM. Speaker: **Ward Gill**, Executive Director of the San Diego Symphony.

The RotaPoint

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